TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, March 29, 1990 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended March 24 totaled 344,357, up 3.1 percent from the comparable week of 1989 and 1.6 percent above the preceding week of 1990, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 5.6 percent in the West and 1.0 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1989 week, coal loadings rose by 5,544 cars (4.3 percent). Loadings of chemicals were up 1,870 cars (6.9 percent), while motor vehicles and equipment loadings increased by 1,195 cars (6.5 percent). Grain loadings fell by 1,328 cars (4.4 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 12 weeks of 1990 totaled 4,012,395, up 1.0 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 120,172 trailers and/or containers for the week ended March 24, up 5.7 percent from the comparable week of 1989.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 12 weeks of 1990 was 1,392,349 trailers and/or containers, 4.0 percent above the comparable 1989 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended March 24 totaled 20.0 billion, up 3.6 percent from the comparable week of 1989. Cumulative volume for the first 12 weeks of 1990 was an estimated 232.9 billion ton-miles, up 1.5 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

# WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
## FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 24, 1990

| CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | COMPARISON WITH | | | |
| COMMODITY | WEEK ENDING MARCH 24, 1990 | SAME WEEK OF 1989 | CHANGE | PRECEDING WEEK | CHANGE |
| Grain | 28,706 | 30,034 | -4.4 % | 29,233 | -1.8 % |
| Farm Products, Ex. Grain | 1,721 | 1,637 | 5.1 | 1,567 | 9.8 |
| Metallic Ores | 15,732 | 16,056 | -2.0 | 14,015 | 12.3 |
| Coal | 133,506 | 127,962 | 4.3 | 131,543 | 1.5 |
| Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel | 14,366 | 13,474 | 6.6 | 13,149 | 9.3 |
| Nonmetallic Minerals | 9,280 | 9,021 | 2.9 | 9,583 | -3.2 |
| Grain Mill Products | 10,803 | 9,469 | 14.1 | 10,395 | 3.9 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 8,988 | 8,224 | 9.3 | 8,780 | 2.4 |
| Primary Forest Products | 9,910 | 10,020 | -1.1 | 10,351 | -4.3 |
| Lumber & Wood Products | 6,726 | 6,992 | -3.8 | 6,372 | 5.6 |
| Pulp, Paper & Allied Products | 10,319 | 11,000 | -6.2 | 10,639 | -3.0 |
| Chemicals | 28,958 | 27,088 | 6.9 | 28,669 | 1.0 |
| Petroleum Products | 5,226 | 4,699 | 11.2 | 4,923 | 6.2 |
| Stone, Clay & Glass Products | 10,163 | 9,540 | 6.5 | 9,982 | 1.8 |
| Coke | 5,674 | 5,949 | -4.6 | 5,650 | .4 |
| Metals & Products | 10,017 | 9,753 | 2.7 | 9,822 | 2.0 |
| Motor Vehicles & Equipment | 19,478 | 18,283 | 6.5 | 19,266 | 1.1 |
| Waste & Scrap Materials | 8,459 | 8,531 | -.8 | 8,503 | -.5 |
| All Other Carloads | 6,325 | 6,349 | -.4 | 6,483 | -2.4 |
| **Total** | **344,357** | **334,081** | **3.1 %** | 338,925 | 1.6 % |

| SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | WEEK ENDING MARCH 24, 1990 | | | CUMULATIVE: 12 WEEKS ENDING MARCH 24, 1990 | | |
| TRAFFIC | 1990 | 1989 | CHANGE | 1990 | 1989 | CHANGE |
| **Carloads Originated** | **344,357** | **334,081** | **3.1 %** | 4,012,395 | 3,972,610 | 1.0 % |
| **Intermodal Traffic Originated** | | | | | | |
| Trailers | 67,791 | 65,707 | 3.2 | 786,538 | 776,042 | 1.4 |
| Containers | 52,381 | 47,950 | 9.2 | 605,811 | 562,639 | 7.7 |
| **Total** | **120,172** | **113,657** | **5.7** | 1,392,349 | 1,338,681 | 4.0 |
| **Estimated Ton-Miles** | | | | | | |
| **Class I Railroads (Billions)** | **20.0** | **19.3** | **3.6 %** | 232.9 | 229.4 | 1.5 % |